

Status of the Claims:

Claims 1-37. (Canceled)

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) A stent for holding open a blood vessel comprising:

- a. a first loop containing band, the first loop containing band arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the first loop containing band extending 360 degrees about a longitudinal axis, said first loop containing band comprising loops occurring at a first frequency;
- b. a second loop containing band, the second loop containing band arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the second loop containing band extending 360 degrees about the longitudinal axis, said second loop containing band comprising loops also occurring at said first frequency; and
- c. a third loop containing band, the third loop containing band arranged generally in the circumferential direction and extending 360 degrees about the longitudinal axis between the first loop containing band and the second loop containing band, said third loop containing band comprising loops occurring at a second frequency that is higher than said first frequency, said third loop containing band disposed in the generally circumferential space between said first and second loop containing bands and alternately joined to said first and second loop containing bands.

Claim 39. (Canceled)

Claim 40. (Canceled)

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) A stent for widening a vessel in the human body comprising:

- a. a plurality of first circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a first frequency, the first circumferential bands extending 360 degrees about a longitudinal axis; and
- b. a plurality of second circumferential bands containing a pattern of loops at a second frequency higher than said first frequency, the second circumferential bands extending 360 degrees about the longitudinal axis, alternating with said first circumferential bands and periodically coupled thereto to form cells.

Claim 42. (Canceled)

Claim 43. (Canceled)

Claim 44. (Previously Presented) A stent for holding open a blood vessel formed of a plurality of triangular cells, each triangular cell comprising:

- a. a first loop containing band, the first loop containing band arranged generally in the circumferential direction, the first loop containing band extending 360 degrees about a longitudinal axis;
- b. a second loop containing band joined to the first loop containing band at a first junction point, the second loop containing band extending 360 degrees about a longitudinal axis; and
- c. a third loop containing band, the third loop containing band extending 360 degrees about a longitudinal axis, the third loop containing band arranged between the first loop containing band and the second loop containing band, the third loop containing band joined to the first loop containing band at a second junction point and joined to the second loop containing band at a third junction point.

Claims 45 – 49 (Canceled)

Claim 50. (Withdrawn) A multicellular stent for holding open a lumen, comprising:

- a. a plurality of even and odd vertical meander patterns, the odd vertical meander patterns being located between every two even vertical meander patterns and being out of phase with the even vertical meander patterns,
- b. a plurality of even and odd horizontal meander patterns, the odd horizontal meander patterns being located between every two even horizontal meander patterns,
- c. wherein the vertical meander patterns are intertwined with the horizontal meander patterns to form a plurality of triangular cells,
- d. wherein said horizontal meander patterns and said vertical meander patterns are disposed and adapted to cooperate so that after expansion of said stent, when said stent is disposed in a curved lumen, cells on the outside of the curve open in length, but narrow circumferentially whereas cells on the inside of the curve shorten in length but widen circumferentially, and
- e. said horizontal meander patterns and said vertical meander patterns form a high and a low frequency loop sections, wherein the high frequency loop section compensates

for foreshortening of the low frequency loop section when the stent is expanded such that width of the low frequency loop section is smaller when expanded than compressed and width of the higher frequency loop section is larger when expanded than compressed.

Claim 51. (Withdrawn) A stent according to claim 50 wherein compensation, which occurs when cells on the outside of the curve open in length, but narrow circumferentially and cells on the inside of the curve shorten in length but widen circumferentially, results in a more constant density of stent element area between the inside and the outside of the curve than if the cells on the outside only lengthened and cells on the inside only shortened.

Claim 52. (Withdrawn) A stent according to claim 50 wherein compensation, which occurs when cells on the outside of the curve open in length, but narrow circumferentially and cells on the inside of the curve shorten in length but widen circumferentially, results in a more constant stent cell area between the inside and the outside of the curve than if the cells on the outside only lengthened and cells on the inside only shortened.

Claim 53. (Withdrawn) An expandable stent comprising a plurality of enclosed flexible spaces, each of the plurality of enclosed flexible spaces including:

- a) a first member having a first end and a second end;
- b) a second member having a first end and a second end;
- c) a third member having a first end and a second end;
- d) a fourth member having a first end and a second end; the first end of the first member communicating with the first end of the second member, the second end of the second member communicating with the second end of the third member, and the first end of the third member communicating with the first end of the fourth member;
- e) the first member and the second member with the curved portion at their ends forming a first loop;
- f) the third member and the fourth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a second loop;
- g) a fifth member having a first end and a second end;
- h) a sixth member having a first end and a second end;
- i) a seventh member having a first end and a second end;
- j) an eighth member having a first end and a second end;

- k) a ninth member having a first end and a second end; and
- l) a tenth member having a first end and a second end, the first end of the fifth member communicating with the second end of the first member, the second end of the fifth member communicating with the second end of the sixth member, the first end of the sixth member communicating with the first end of the seventh member, the second end of the seventh member communicating with the second end of the eighth member, the first end of the eighth member communicating with the first end of the ninth member, the second end of the ninth member communicating with the second end of the tenth member, and the first end of the of the tenth member communicating with the second end of the fourth member;
- m) the fifth member and the sixth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a third loop;
- n) the seventh member and the eighth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a fourth loop; and
- o) the ninth member and the tenth member with the curved portion at their ends forming a fifth loop, wherein, when the expanded stent is in a curved lumen, cells on the outside of the curve at communication points of the first and fifth and fourth and tenth members, the cell opens up increasing the length of the cell and at each of the first through fifth loops, the adjoining members come closer to each other, to cause the cell to become narrower circumferentially and compensating for the increase in length, whereas cells on the outside of the curve at communication points of the first and fifth and fourth and tenth members, the cell closes down decreasing the length of the cell and at each of the first through fifth loops, the adjoining members move apart, to cause the cell to become wider circumferentially and compensate for the decrease in length, and
the fifth through tenth members compensate for foreshortening of the first through fourth members when the stent is expanded such that width of the first through fourth members is smaller when expanded than compressed and width of the fifth through tenth members is larger when expanded than compressed.

Claim 54. (Withdrawn) A stent according to claim 53 wherein the compensation which occurs on the outside of the curve and on the inside of the curve results in a more constant density

of stent element area between the inside and the outside of the curve than if the cells on the outside only lengthened and cells on the inside only shortened.

Claim 55. (Withdrawn) A stent according to claim 53 wherein the compensation which occurs on the outside of the curve and on the inside of the curve results in a more constant stent area between the inside and the outside of the curve than if the cells on the outside only lengthened and cells on the inside only shortened.